

Message Text

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TO USMISSION SINAI

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 087214

FROM SSM

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PDIP

SUBJECT: CONSULAR SERVICES AT SFM

REF: SINAI 668

1. IN FEBRUARY 1976, SFM REQUESTED AUTHORIZATION TO HAVE CONSULAR NOTARIAL SERVICES PERFORMED AT SFM (SINAI 143, FEB. 28, 1976). WE RECOGNIZE THAT IN LIGHT OF SFM'S RECORDS DESTRUCTION PROGRAM THE DEPARTMENT'S RESPONSE-- STATE 52840 OF MAR. 4, 1976--MAY NO LONGER BE AVAILABLE. IT STATED, IN PART, QUOTE: SFM REQUEST FOR DEPARTMENT AUTHORIZATION TO PERFORM CONSULAR NOTARIAL SERVICES AT SFM SITE HAS BEEN THOROUGHLY EXPLORED BY REPRESENTATIVES OF SSM, SCA, L/A AND NEA. FOR A VARIETY OF LEGAL AND POLITICAL REASONS, DEPARTMENT IS NOT REPEAT NOT ABLE TO GRANT SFM THE PERMISSION REQUESTED. THE REASONS INCLUDE: (A) QUESTIONABLE
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LEGAL VALIDITY OF NOTARIALS PERFORMED BY OFFICERS WHO DO NOT POSSESS VALID EXEQUATURS; (B) CONCERN OF WHO SHOULD ISSUE SUCH EXEQUATURS; AND (C) QUESTIONS ABOUT ACTUAL VERSUS RESIDUAL SOVEREIGNTY OVER AREA IN WHICH SFM LOCATED
UNQUOTE.

2. WE HAVE CONFIRMED THAT THIS RESPONSE IS STILL CON-

SIDERED VALID. IN FACT, YOU SHOULD BE AWARE THAT AFFIDAVITS OR ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS EXECUTED BY UNAUTHORIZED INDIVIDUALS COULD BE HELD TO BE INVALID, RESULTING IN SERIOUS LEGAL CONSEQUENCES FOR BOTH CUSTOMERS AND THE OFFICERS PERFORMING THE SERVICE.

3. ALSO, LIAISON OFFICERS ASSIGNED TO SFM ARE GRANTED THE TITLE OF ATTACHE OR ASSISTANT ATTACHE. THOSE FSO'S WHO ALSO HOLD COMMISSIONS AS CONSULAR OFFICERS MAY BE DESIGNATED BY THE POST TO EXECUTE PASSPORT APPLICATIONS AND EXTENSIONS. THIS AUTHORITY FROM THE PASSPORT OFFICE DOES NOT, HOWEVER, CONSTITUTE AN ASSIGNMENT COMMISSION TO PERFORM OTHER CONSULAR DUTIES, NOR DOES IT GRANT THE TITLE OF CONSUL OR VICE CONSUL TO THOSE OFFICERS. VANCE

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